

**For Immediate Release
March 21, 2006**

Crews to Detour Traffic on I-85 to Lay Bridge Girders

Rowan County, NC--- Blythe Construction crews will be laying 14 bridge girders weighing about 96,000 pounds a piece over I-85 Wednesday and Thursday nights. In order to make this maneuver as safe as possible, crews will need to detour traffic around the site of the bridgework. On Wednesday March 22 from 8pm until 6am, I-85 northbound will be detoured between mile markers 79 and 83. On Thursday March 23, I-85 southbound will be detoured between mile markers 83 and 79 from 8pm until 6am. Please bear with us, as crews must make this procedure as safe as possible for both workers and motorists!

On Wednesday northbound traffic will be detoured at exit 79 to Andrews Street where they will be directed to go north onto NC 150. This will lead traffic back to exit 83 on I-85 northbound.

On Thursday, southbound traffic will be detoured at exit 83 to south NC 150 where they will be directed to go left onto Andrews Street/Old Union Church Road. This will lead traffic back to exit 79 on I-85 southbound.

Detour maps can be found on www.i85widening.com by clicking onto "traffic control."

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Blythe Construction and the NCDOT have developed a web site for the Rowan I-85 project. It contains current information about the project along with a public feedback link. Just log onto www.i85widening.com and click onto the Rowan County link.

The I-85 Widening Rowan project spans from just north of Bringle Ferry Road to just north of Long Ferry Road; a distance of about 3.3 miles. I-85 will be widened from four to eight through lanes with a 22-foot grassed median. The widening is being done to improve the safety and traffic carrying capacity of I-85.

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